

11-98

# ZERO BEAT

Our 53rd year,

A Publication of the Hampden County Radio Association

November, 1998

## Going Once,..Going Twice,

This month the HCRA will be holding our Annual Auction at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church on Friday, November 6, 1998. Doors open at 6:30pm, and the Auction starts at 7:00 pm.

### Rules for the Auction

Amateur radio of computer related items only.

Mark all items with name/call and minimum acceptable bid.

Items without minimum acceptable bid will sell at any price!

10% of the selling price goes to the HCRA (up to a maximum of \$10 to HCRA).

If it doesn't sell - you bring it home!

Decision of the Auctioneer is final!

**DON'T BE LATE FOR THIS ONE, OR YOU'LL BE SORRY!!**

### **LOGO CONTEST** **UPDATE**

THE PRIZE FOR THE WINNER IS A 1999 AMATEUR HANDBOOK. AS OF THIS DATE WE HAVE 6 ENTRIES. IT WOULD BE NICE TO HAVE MANY MORE TO CHOOSE FROM. WE WILL BE SETTING A DEADLINE FOR ENTRY IN THE NEAR FUTURE. SO LETS GET THOSE ENTRIES IN.

**GOOD LUCK!**

### **RADIALS**

Don't forget to check out the new DX column and the Swap & Shop column in this month's issue. Also, the Severe Weather column by Eric, N1QKO is back!

The search for a Club Logo goes on, and if you submit the winning design, you could win an ARRL Amateur Radio Handbook!

*If you are interested in submitting an article, contact Barry, N1IJK at the Club meeting, or at the PO Box at the return address on your Zero Beat. Please include a phone number where you can be reached.*

# **FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK**

Great things are happening, the HCRA auction at the next club meeting. A fine time to turn your old stuff into cash and pick up lots of bargains at the same time. The club is very fortunate to have prime time auctioneers to handle the proceedings Jim WA1ZUH and Jim N1RUT they will make it a real fun evening. Also the big drawing for the ADI 2 meter HT will take place that evening.

Tom Frenaye K1KI ARRL New England Division Director and Bill Voedisch W1UD Western Massachusetts Division Director will be attending the meeting to make a special presentation to the club, something you will not want to miss.

Its time to start thinking about our December Holiday Pot Luck Dinner. Please contact Betty KB1CPZ 413-567-5782 or PAT N1CET 413-566-3966 our dinner coordinators for ideas on what to bring. The club will supply beverages and table ware. Everyone is welcome bring your spouse or friend lets have a PARTY. ( Bringing a dish is not mandatory but if you can help it would be greatly appreciated )

Just a reminder there is still plenty of time to get in on the club logo contest put your idea on paper and bring it to the next club meeting you just might be the winner of a new ARRL HANDBOOK.

What could be the best news of all is that ten meters has had some terrific openings these past weeks and it looks like the band has finally come back it should not be long before you can work all the DX you can handle on the ten meter band good luck.

Again I ask you if you have not paid your dues for the new year please do so hopefully at the November meeting. If you cannot be at the meeting you can take care of it by sending you payment to the club post office box. We thank you very much for your support.

Some of you may be getting ZERO BEAT for the first time. Please take it as an invitation to come to the Hampden County Radio Assn. club meeting. See what we are all about and if you like what you see you are most welcome to join us.

Looking forward to saying hello to all at the next meeting 73 for now. de Irv W6IS

## **Join us**

Monday and Tuesday  
nights for the HCRA Nets.

**Mon. 7:30 pm,  
28.375MHz  
+/-QRM**

**Tues. 7:30 pm  
147.105MHz,  
+600kHz offset**

## **Short Takes From The VP**

By

**Walter Nero,  
WA1HHN**

Tom Frenaye, our New England Director sent me an E-mail regarding the restructuring proposal. The ARRL is reviewing the comments they have received to date on their licensing restructuring proposal and working on the details of their response to the FCC NPRM that must be filed before Dec. 1. You need to respond now for your comments to be heard. A good way to do this is to E-mail our Director or Vice-Director at [k1ki@arrrl.org](mailto:k1ki@arrrl.org) and [k1twf@arrrl.org](mailto:k1twf@arrrl.org). If you are not on the Net, take up paper and pen and write to; Tom Frenaye, K1KI, P.O.Box 386, West Suffield, CT.

He also gave me his phone number as (860)668-5444. I will make copies and distribute the ARRL and FCC NPRM at our next meeting in November. Seems like the auction will be a good place to catch a lot of people.

By the way, things just keep getting better at the Congregational Church where we hold our meetings. Carpeting, drop-in ceilings, fans and now comfortable chairs. Hey, coupled with the donuts, coffee and camaraderie it makes for great night out. Join the fun and be a member.... See you there!

# **DX CLIPS**

By  
**JORDY KOLTZ, W1JK**  
**W1JK@MAP.COM**

I plan to offer a few tips on DX operating occasionally. These are intended to benefit the less experienced or newer members. I anticipate that the ever increasing sunspot numbers will entice some who have pursued other areas of interest to taste HF DX. Watch out - the "BUG" may bite you!

## **A few DO'S:**

1. Listen, listen, listen - there may be some rare ones buried under the QRM/QRN.
2. Take advantage of the many legitimate nets that operate on a regular schedule. It is an easy orderly way to get your "feet wet" on HF DX.
3. Don't be intimidated by the purists who, although well-meaning, suggest that nets are taking the shortcut and somehow cheapen the DX credit.

## **A few DON'TS:**

1. Don't presume that the DX is listening on his transmit frequency and call there. Listen for his/her instructions. They will tell you (e.g. 5 up; 200-205). Remember rare DX almost always operates "split".
2. Don't call out of turn. If the DX station is a savvy operator he will listen by the #'s to handle a big pileup: 1's, 2's ++. Some DX stations will mark down those callers and "will not hear them" when their turn comes.

## **Look For:**

**Glorioso Island**, Jacques (FR5ZU) 10/7-10/30 as FR5ZU/G SSB all bands. 0230 - 0430Z; 1430-1600Z; 1700-1800Z QSL via JA8FCG.

**Antarctica**, Dave, KC4AAA on 14243 0000 - 0800Z until 11/4. QSL via NC6J.

**S9, Sao Tome & Principe** - 10/26 - 11/7 - Chris & Martin = S92YV & YN - QSL to HB9CYV /HB9CYN.

**Nepal**, 9N7RW, David (G4ERW) QRV until 11/7. QSL via home call.

**Tunisia**, 3V8BB - Al, F2KN QRV until 10/31. QSL to F2KN.

**Angola**, D2BB - Fernando is QRV on 28480 1700 - 1730Z. QSL via W3HNK.

**4S7 - Sri Lanka** - 10/20 - 10/30 - mainly CW. 160 - 40M only = Mitsu, JA4AHV.

**Eastern Kiribati, T32 BI** - Tuck is QRV on 14260 from 0130 - 0300Z & 14200 from 0630 - 0830Z. QSL via KH6DFW.

**Norfolk Island, VK9N** - Jim (VK9NS) is QRV on 24901 at 1915Z & 14222 0300-0400Z. QSL: J Smith, PO box 90, Norfolk Is., NSW, Australia.

**See you next month! - Jordy.**

## **REDNECK COMPUTER TERMS**

**Backup** - what you do when you run across a skunk in the woods.

**Byte** - what your pit bull dug to cousin Jethro.

**Chip** - pasture muffins you try not to step in.

**Digital** - the art of counting on your fingers.

**Fax** - what you lie about to the IRS

**Hacker** - Uncle Leroy after 32 years of smoking.

**Keyboard** - where you hang the keys to your John Deere.

**Mac** - Bubba's favorite food.

**Megahertz** - how your head feels after 17 beers.

**Modem** - what you did when the grass got too tall.

**Network** - scoop'n up a big fish before it breaks the line.

**Online** - where to stay when you take the sobriety test.

**Rom** - where the Pope lives.

**Screen** - helps keep the skeeters off the porch.

**Superconductor** - Amtrak's Employee of the Year.

**SCSI** - What you call your week-old underwear.

**Terminal** - time to call the undertaker.

# **SEVERE WEATHER**

*By Eric, N1QKO, Western MA Skywarn*

Hello to all, Now that summer is over and the leaves are falling. It's time to get ready for winter. Can you find your snow shovel? This month, to get every one in the mood for snow, I'd like to re-familiarize you with the different watches and warnings.

**WINTER STORM WATCH:** severe winter weather conditions may affect your area. (freezing rain, sleet, heavy snow may occur)

**WINTER STORM WARNING:** severe winter weather conditions are imminent or occurring.

**HEAVY SNOW WARNING:** a snow fall of at least 4 inches in 12 hours or 6 inches in 24 hours is expected. (under certain conditions, heavy snow may be included in a Winter storm warning.

**BLIZZARD WARNING:** considerable falling and/or blowing snow and winds of at least 35 miles per hour are expected for several hours.

**HIGH WIND WARNING:** sustained winds of at least 40 miles per hour or gusts of at least 50 miles per or greater are expected for at least one hour.

## **Know how to protect yourself:**

**BEFORE THE STORM:** prepare- automobile, battery power, heating fuel, food, and other supplies.

**DURING AND AFTER THE STORM:** dress warmly-wear multiple layers of clothing, scarves, mittens.

**AVOID TRAVEL:** if stranded, stay in your vehicle, keep it ventilated, bundle up.

**AVOID OVEREXERTION:** shoveling snow or freeing stuck vehicles can be extremely hard work. Don't overdo it!

## **Who to Contact**

**Questions, Comments and Suggestions  
Can Be Directed To:**

### **HCRA OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT IRV SLITZKY, W6IS  
(413) 565-5222 W6ISI@JUNO.COM  
VICE-PRESIDENT WALTER NERO,  
WA1HHN (860) 684-6650  
TREASURER GREG STODDARD, N1AEH  
(860) 668-5143  
SECRETARY JIM MULLEN, WA1ZUH  
(413) 245-3228

### **HCRA DIRECTORS**

AT LARGE AL DRAKE, N1CQT  
(413) 783-8427  
PROGRAM LARRY SMITH, K1ILZ  
(413) 566-3966  
MEMBERSHIP YORKE PHILLIPS, K1BXE  
(413) 566-3010  
NEWSLETTER BARRY MASON, N1IJK  
(413) 789-0990  
TECHNICAL GEORGE WALSH K1RBS  
(413) 566-3010

### **WINY STATION TRUSTEE**

DON JOHNSON, W1UPH (413) 566-5517  
(let it ring)

### **SAFETY ENGINEERING**

Peter Russell KE1DQ

### **1998 Holiday dinner coordinators**

Betty KB1CPZ Chairperson 567-5782  
Pat N1CET Asst. Chairperson 566-3966

## **"Way to Go, HCRA!"**

This letter was sent to The HCRA just after the **BIG E** ended this year.

Ginette Veilleux, N1VHB  
Springfield, MA 01104  
October 4, 1998

Hampden County Radio Association  
C/O Irving Slitzky, W6IS  
Longmeadow, MA 01106

Dear Hampden County Radio Association,

I wanted to write to say a special thank you for joining us at the Big E. I hope that you enjoyed yourselves, also, I hope you did get the opportunity to see and take in the sights that you were interested in seeing. It has been a very successful year for the Amateur Radio Booth, and I hope you will join us next year in making the Amateur Radio Booth just as successful as this year.

Again, I thank you.

Sincerely,  
(signed)

Ginette Veilleux, N1VHB and the Big E gang

### **We Wish to Thank.....**

Those who have given a donation to help support our Club:

**Irv Slitzky, W6IS**

**Walt Nero, WA1HHN**

**Al Pooler, K1ZY**

**Chris Scibelli, NU1O**

**Bob Roy, N1ABJ**

**Thanks For Your Support!**

### **Next Month's Meeting:**

Along with our Speaker we will be featuring a **POT LUCK DINNER!**

Although it is not necessary to bring anything to attend the meeting, we hope everyone will participate, and bring an dish.

*Please contact*

Betty, KB1CPZ, 567-5782 or  
Pat, N1CET, 566-3966

**by Tuesday, Nov. 3**  
with what you can bring so they can coordinate selections.



## **SWAP & SHOP!**

*Swap & Shop is a forum for the exchange of Amateur Radio related equipment and is provided to the Amateur Community as a service by the HCRA. All descriptions and claims are made by the seller, and are the responsibility of the seller. The HCRA assumes no responsibility or liability for the listings, actions or claims of either the seller or the buyer. All listings must be submitted in writing and must be accompanied by a telephone number where the buyer can be reached. Submissions must be received by the 3rd Friday of the month to be eligible for the next month's issue. Forwarding of a list of items for sale to Zero Beat is not a guarantee of publication by Zero Beat, and no guarantee of sale is intended or implied.*

*You may submit listings to Barry Mason, N1IJK, PO Box 705, Agawam, MA, 01001-0705.*

### **For Sale:**

- \*KENWOOD TS-530STRANCEIVER...\$400 includes CW filter and manual. 160 thru 10 meters including WARC bands**
- \*SPAULDING 46 FOOT TOWER, ON GROUND, DISMANTLED six 8 foot sections. Winch tilt over mechanism available. Can deliver to your site.....\$350**
- \*Hy-GAIN DB-10-15 DUOBANDER 3 ELEMENT BEAM. 10 and 15 meters. Manual.....\$100**

**Contact: Mike Ludkiewicz, W1DGJ, Ludlow, (413) 583-6678**

### **For Sale:**

- \*1/2 INCH 75 OHM HARDLINE CABLE. VERY LOW LOSS  
(APPROX. LOSSES PER 100ft. - .46db@30MHz, 1.3db@150MHz,  
2.2db@450MHz)**

**Contact: Barry Mason, N1IJK, (413) 789-0990**

### **For Sale:**

- \*R392 Receiver (.5 to 32Mhz. w/mechanical digital readout). Includes power supply , amplified speaker , manual and schematics . Nice condition .**
- \*C847 Speaker & Control Box (8ohm speaker ,on/off power switch and volume control) . New in box .**
- \*PP4763 Power Supply--28Vdc adjustable , 50 amp continous /80amp peak . Like new condition .**
- \*CV278 Teletype converter w/cables . Mint and working. With the mounting base .**
- \*J668/GRC Junction Box used with the complete TTY set to control all functions of the R393 , T195 & Cv278 .Has 2-meters , main CB and multiple toggle switches . Still in box , new .**
- \*LS-166 Speaker w/cable and plug for R392 . Works but not pretty .**

**Desire to sell all of above as a package . \$400.00 Or Trade.**

**Contact: Walt WA1HHN at (860)-684-6650 or wa1hnh@yahoo.com**

### **For Sale:**

- \*Hy-Gain Explorer -14 Triband Beam. 10, 15, & 20 meters. Boom is in two pieces. Elements are still assembled and ready to erect.**
- \*Hy-Gain Model 205B-S. Two meter, five element beam.**
- \*Hy-gain Model V3R 220MHz vertical antenna.**
- \*Ham IV Rotator**
- \*Tripod roof mount tower. 4 feet high with stainless steel mast mount**

for the rotator.

**\*Documents and instructions**

Asking \$425.00 for all.

Contact: Bob Roy, N1ABJ at (413) 534-1227

**Wanted :**

**\*Rotors...Tr-44 , HD73 . Similar or larger . What have you ??**

Need several .

**\*Dow Key DK60 coaxial relay w/12VDC coil ,SPDT , also could use a DPDT version for another project.**

Contact: Walt WA1HHN (860) 684-6650 or wa1hnn@yahoo.com

### **NEWS BITS**

**WASHINGTON, DC, Oct. 21, 1998--**The FCC has issued its long-awaited Report and Order on the Universal Licensing System, which affects all Wireless Telecommunications Bureau licensees. Among other things, the ULS will result in replacing the familiar FCC Form 610 series with a new Form 605. The new rules become official 60 days after publication in The Federal Register--sometime around the end of the year. The FCC has said the ULS will "fundamentally change" the way the Commission receives and processes wireless applications and makes licensee information available to the public.

As part of its Report and Order on the ULS, the FCC also issued amended rules (in WT Docket 96-188) to authorize visiting foreign hams to operate in the US pursuant to recent international reciprocal operating agreements. This means that foreign hams holding a CEPT radio-amateur license from a CEPT country or an International Amateur Radio Permit issued by a participating CITEL country could operate while visiting the US without having to apply for permission. The FCC noted that the new system is similar to the one already in place for US and Canadian hams to operate in each other's countries.

**The FCC said it will require the submission of a Taxpayer Identification Number by applicants and licensees using ULS, "consistent with the requirements of the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996."** Some commenters, particularly amateur operators, argued against the requirement, the FCC said. Those opposing mandatory disclosure of a TIN--typically a Social Security Number--said it raised privacy concerns and was unnecessary to the Commission's regulatory goals. The FCC said it has instituted security measures to limit access to TIN data both on-line and to FCC staff.

### **HAMS HELP NAB POLICE RADIO JAMMER**

A Connecticut Amateur Radio tracking team called Capitol Region Malicious Interference Tracking (CRMIT--pronounced "Kermit") helped lead authorities to a man they believe was interfering with local public safety communications. Wethersfield, Connecticut, police arrested Joel Langdo of Hartford September 29. He's been charged with criminal mischief, interfering with police and breach of peace. Langdo also could face similar charges in other communities as well as Federal charges.

Langdo, a security guard who does not hold an amateur license, allegedly used a modified ham radio hand-held to transmit on police and fire frequencies used by as many as three dozen Connecticut public safety agencies. At one point, he is said to have jammed the Manchester, Connecticut, police system for 15 minutes.

Tracking down Langdo took several months of often grueling detective work and careful documentation of offending transmissions, according to CRMIT spokesman Bruce Marcus, WA1NXG, an ARRL Life Member who's in the land-mobile business. Last April, Manchester Police solicited help from CRMIT, which, in turn notified the FCC. CRMIT helped Manchester authorities solve another malicious interference case several years ago.

**The next meeting of the  
Hampden County Radio Association  
will be on Friday, November 6, 1998  
at 7:30 p.m. at the Feeding Hills Congrega-  
tional Church. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.**

**The Annual HCRA Auction Starts at  
7:00 PM!**

**SEE YOU THERE!**

In case of inclement weather, listen to Channel 40 or 22, and the 146.940 and 147.105 repeaters.  
Meeting cancellation information will be given out by 6:00 p.m.

Barry Mason, N1IJK, Editor  
PO Box 705  
Agawam, MA 01001-0705



**HAMPDEN COUNTY RADIO ASSN.**

P. O. Box : 562 Agawam Ma. 01001

**CALL SIGN:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE: HOME** \_\_\_\_\_ **WORK** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-MAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

**LICENSE CLASS:** NOVICE \_\_\_\_\_ TECH \_\_\_\_\_ TECH-PLUS \_\_\_\_\_ GENERAL \_\_\_\_\_

ADVANCE \_\_\_\_\_ EXTRA \_\_\_\_\_

**ENCLOSED:**

**MEMBERSHIP** \_\_\_\_\_ **RENEWEL** \_\_\_\_\_ **DONATION** \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNUAL DUES:** \$10.00

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:** ARRL

**MEMBERSHIP** \_\_\_\_\_ **LIFE MEMBER ?** \_\_\_\_\_

**VE: YES** ☐ **NO** ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ **IF YES EXPIRATION DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR VE PROGRAM ?** \_\_\_\_\_

**MY INTERESTS ARE:** HF ☐ UHF ☐ VHF ☐ SATELLITE ☐ REPEATERS ☐ PACKET ☐

**OTHER: (Please Specify)** \_\_\_\_\_

**BAND OPERATION:** HF ☐ VHF ☐ UHF ☐

**I HAVE INTERESTS IN ASSISTING IN THESE PROGRAMS :**

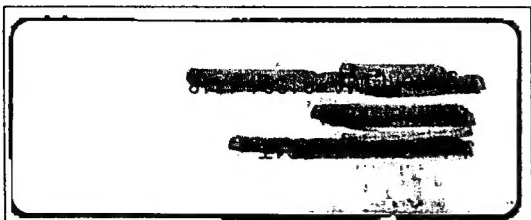
HAM TRAINING CLASSES ☐ ELMER PROGRAM ☐ CLUB MEETINGS ☐ TECHNICAL ☐

CONTESTING ☐ FIELD DAY: SET UP ☐ TAKE-DOWN ☐ STATION OPERATION ☐

**I NEED MORE INFORMATION :** ☐.

**I WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST The FOLLOWING:** \_\_\_\_\_

01001+1415



**HOPE TO CU THERE!**  
**AND OF COURSE... A GREAT TIME!**  
**COFFEE & DONUTS, RAFFLE**  
**EVERYONE WELCOME!**  
**HCRA ANNUAL AUCTION**  
**NEXT MEETING NOVEMBER 20!**

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**Hampden County Radio Association**  
 P.O. Box 562  
 Agawam, MA 01001



SPFLD MA 011 11/02-08 DEC # 2

**IF YOUR ZERO BEAT IS  
 WRAPPED IN THIS  
 PAPER!**

**IT'S TIME TO...**  
**Renew Now!!!**

Support the HCRA and keep your copy  
 of Zero Beat coming every month.  
 A handy application is printed on the  
 back of this wrapper. Send it in, or  
 bring it to next HCRA meeting on  
 October 2nd!

Thanks for your support - Irv, W6IS